

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE REPORT

Name: Kathleen Woodcock

Date Submitted: February 3, 2022

Name of Conference: Public Education Symposium (PES) 2022

Sponsoring Organization: Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA)

Conference Date: January 28, 2022

Location: Virtual

Workshops/Seminars/Presentations/Keynote Speeches Attended:

Minister of Education, the Honourable Stephen Lecce

The Minister indicated gratitude for the hard work of OPSBA and all school boards and staff in putting student safety and well-being at the forefront during the pandemic.

The Audacity to Dream in the Face of Adversity

Randell Adjei, Ontario's First Poet Laureate

Role of Ontario's poet laureate is advocating for arts and culture across the province (every child is an artist); advocating for youth voice and literacy (by listening); supporting the province with art and public policy.

Moving Forward with Anti-Racism in Every Classroom

Matthew R. Morris, Educator (TDSB), speaker and writer

"The action we take through first excavating our allegiances, and then telling the truth amongst each other, and then free styling, coming up with a flexible plan that must have the end goal of action that disrupts the status quo."

The Profound and Enduring Impact of Coronavirus on the Way We Live

Nicholas A. Christakis, Sterling Professor of Social and Natural Science at Yale University & Author of Apollo's Arrow

Very interesting session about the impact of the coronavirus pandemic as it swept through American Society in 2020 and of how the pandemic will unfold, and ultimately end, in the coming years. The speaker explored what it means to live in a time of plague, drawing on epidemiology, sociology, medicine, public health, history, virology and other fields.

Panel Discussion: *Ontario School Boards - 2022 and Beyond*

As the 2022 Municipal and School Board elections draw near, the panel discussed how to build upon the democratic and inclusive nature of school board governance to better serve students and communities.

Collective Bargaining 2022

OPSBA Regional Council Meeting